a nationalized bank branch at Delhi in which unaccounted transactions undertaken by seven persons were detected.

(b) Findings of the enquiries/investigation have been referred to the jurisdictional Assessing Officers for taking appropriate action under the law.

(c) BCTT collected during the financial year 2005-06 was Rs. 309.34 crore while an amount of Rs. 451.23 crore has been collected in the current financial year upto February, 2007. Enquiries carried out by the Income Tax Department on the basis of the BCTT statements have led to detection of substantial tax evasion. Tax recovery in respect of such cases would take place only after the assessments in these cases are finalized in accordance with law. State-wise details of such cases are not centrally maintained.

Decline In RRBs

†2317. SHRI RUDRA NARAYANA PANY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of Regional Rural Banks is decreasing;

(b) whether the names of RRBs in the States are being changed; and

(c) if so, whether Government are aware of the discontent being cropped up due to this change?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) As a result of amalgamation, the number of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) have decreased from 196 to 96 as on 12.3.2007. However, the total number of branches of RRBs has not decreased as a result of amalgamation.

(b) On the amalgamation of RRBs, the amalgamated entity has been given a new name in consultation with Sponsor Bank, NABARD and the concerned State Government. There is no change in the names of the RRBs which have not been amalgamated.

(c) As reported by NABARD, there is no discontentment in the customers of RRBs on account of the change in name of the amalgamated RRBs.

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.